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Prologue

Leafstars Pov. Before Everything started.....

Leafstar yowled and slashed her claws down the dogs muzzle. It yelpped and bellowed in pain. Growling it snarled and advanced on Leafstar, it's eyes trained on her. Cats teamed up and fought Dogs back to back. Some yowling in victory some in pain as their lives ended. The ground was littered with blood and fur, the night sky was clear and crisp. Leafstar hissed and arched her back , an uncontrollable fear crept through her as the white and black spotted dog came closer. Leaping she landed squarely on its back. Howling the dog shook itself vigorously, but Leafstar dug her claws into its shoulders and bit down on it's neck. Growing limp it clattered to the ground. Leafstar tumbled off of it landing on the grass with a thud. "*LEAFSTAR!"* Someone yowled. Leafstar whirled around to see a injured and wild eyed RabbitLeap was collapsed on the ground. Leafstar felt panic stab through her, running over she nosed his head up. "RabbitLeap what's wrong?!". A shriek of terror erupted from beside Leafstar. Cringing, Leafstar knew that a cat gotten killed. RabbitLeap gasped and twitched his ears. Rolling onto his back he showed a giant scratch on his belly. He was losing blood to quickly, he would not make it. Leafstar shook her head as RabbitLeap struggled with words she already knew " I'm not go-go-gonna make it". Leafstar tried to say something but RabbitLeap cut her off " Ta-tell Fallowfern I love her". Leafstar dipped her head, and Rabbitleaf struggled with these next words "tell Creekfeather, Plumwillow, and-and Nettlesplash too". Leafstar nodded " I promise" and she meant it with all of her heart. Rabbitleaf shrieked in pain and twitched, his breaths started to slow and his eyes glazed over. Leafstar felt sadness creeping up her. *None of these cats deserve to die!* Leafstar raised her muzzle to the sky. "Star clan take care of RabbitLeap! And may the prey run fresh for you!" the only thing that answered her was a blow of fresh wind bringing the dog scent to her nostrils. Looking around, Leafstar spotted a gray and white Tom finishing off a dog he turned towards her eyes gleaming. Waspwhisker ran up to Leafstar, Panting he towed in triumph " The

dogs are retreating!". What he said was true. The dogs were running back to the Twoleg place barking profanity. Cats were starting to lay down and lick there wounds. Others mourn for the lost. Even though they had won this battle, Leafstar sensed that the dogs were to come back. Something in their eyes told her that much.

Chapter 1

Breezepelt hadn't realized they were real. Though he couldn't deny it as he was led to there camp. The way they talked, the way they acted like a clan. Breezepelt guessed Sharpclaw was the deputy. The amount of respect that they showed to him made it easy to guess. *They probably train like us too, they could help us! Right?* Questions flowed through his head.

They lived in a canon. Breezepelt could see how there was crevices and rocks that would make good dens, rocks surrounded the camp and reached up to the sky. " This way! Your friends are down here!" Ebonyclaw yowled. Breezepelt watched with amazement as Ebonyclaw easily jumped down from her place into camp. Though those leaps were at least a few fox-tails away Breezepelt would probably never make it. Something pushed him from behind, " We don't have all day, once you state your purpose here, you'll be gone" Sharpclaw hissed. Breezepelt growled he would not allow that until he and his clan mates were in there own clans. Breezepelt shook his head and narrowed his eyes at a rock that Ebonyclaw had jumped down from. Bunching his muscles, he leapt. Paws flailing he landed roughly on it making him grunt. Legs giving out from the impact, Breezepelt started to fall. Yowling tumbled down onto the camp ground. Dirt flew into his eyes and he coughed as he landed on his back. His breathe was pushed out of him and his head ached. " BREEZEPELT!" It sounded like Ivypool. Slowly opening his eyes he saw an angry Ivypool arguing with a confused Firepaw. " You should of helped him make that jump! Windclan cats aren't use to it!" She mewed, Firepaw stepped back mortified " I thought Ebonyclaw was going to do it!" She objected. She kind of looked like Firestar. Breezepelt scrambled up, " I-I'm fine" he gasped. Ivypools eyes filled with relief. " Great Starclan! All I heard was a yowl and then a loud thumping sound! I thought you hit your head!" She hissed in relief, Breezepelt stood up and shook himself " I come all this way, and you think I'm going to die from a petty *fall*? Please" he snorted. Harveymoon his white pelt shining in the sunlight growled " It didn't look so petty to me". Breezepelt did feel

battered and bruised. Though he didn't show it. Instead he looked around the camp.
The was a path that led up to the Warriors den, the apprentices den,elders, and nursery. The medicine den was a little ways off but still pretty close. Behind the Medicine vas den was the leaders den.
" All cats old enough to eat there own prey join here beneath Skyrock!". Looking up Breezepelt spotted Firestar and a brown and cream tabby she-cat with Amber eyes. Firestar dipped his head at the she-cat " Greetings Leafstar". *Leafstar?* This must be their leader!. Leafstar flicked her tail " Long time no see Firestar, what brings you here?". Breezepelt was pushed towards the clearing.
Ivypool
Close by his side. He spotted Nightcloud and the others sitting with Skyclan warriors. The Mallowkit gazed at the top of Skyrock, amazed.Emberkit and Eaglekit were still asleep. While Featherkit was munching on a tiny mouse. Firestar raised his voice " things have changed Leafstar, things have changed".

Allegiances

Skyclan;

Leader; Leafstar- a brown and cream tabby she-cat with Amber eyes.
Deputy; Sharpclaw- dark ginger Tom.
Medicine Cat- Echosong-silver tabby she-cat with green eyes.

Warriors;
Patchfoot- black and white tom
Petalnose-pale grey she-cat
Apprentice: Sagepaw
Sparrowpelt: dark brown tabby Tom
Cherrytail- tortoiseshell and white she-cat.
Waspwhisker- gray and white tom
Apprentice:Mintpaw
Shrewtooth- skinny black Tom
Ebonyclaw- a striking black she-cat
Apprentice: Frecklepaw
Billystorm: Ginger and white tom
Apprentice: Snookpaw
Harveymoon:white tom
Macgyver; black and white Tom
Rockshade; black Tom
Bouncefire: Ginger Tom(Clovertails son)

Tinycloud- small white she-cat (Clovertail daughter

Apprentices:

Sagepaw: pale gray tom(son of Petalnose and Rainfur)

Snookpaw: black and white tom

Frecklepaw- mottled light brown tabby she-cat with spotted legs
Firepaw- a ginger she-cat
Stormpaw- a gray and ginger she-cat

Harrypaw- gray Tom with a paler muzzle and underside

QUEENS

Fallowfern- pale brown she-cat (mother to Hunchfoots kits: Rabbitkit, Creekkit,Nettlekit, Plumkit)

Clovertail- light brown she-cat with white belly and legs (expecting Patchfoots kits)

Elders:

Lichenfur- gray mottled she-cat

Tangle- ragged tabby Tom loner

Chapter 2

Yeah no kidding. Breezepelt said claws itched. He winced as he brushed his flanked against the ground as there was a bruise there. " The clans have turned against us" Firestar droned. Skyclan cats gasped and padded closer into the clearing ears erect and alert. Leafstar wrapped her tail around her paws trying to be calm but her eyes betrayed her surprise. Firestar continued " Crowstar from Windclan has connived and convinced cats from other clans to join him in over throwing their leaders" flicking his tail towards the Blackstar and Mistystar. "It looks like they succeeded " muttered a dark brown tabby Tom. Firestar looked at the Tom " Yes Sparrowpelt, they have, but we are not going to give up". Sharpclaw hissed and lashed his tail " Is that what your here for? You need our help to fight back for the clans that betrayed you in the first place?" He growled "might as well just find a new home". Breezepelt get anger well inside of him. How dare this flea infested, maggot filled, fox-heart say that. Unsheathing his claws he stood up. " It's not like they had a choice! Crowstar had the whole Dark forest on his side!". Blackstar, who was sitting beside Ivypool, nodded his head. "Yes it seems as if they were forced to stay". Cats started to bicker and mutter. Breezepet felt a tick of annoyance and sensed Ivypool was feeling the same. Firestar had promised that these cats would help them., but all they were good for was picking fights. A gray Tom with a light muzzle and underside shoved people out of the way and got into Breezepelts face. He was younger then Breezepelt and narrowed his eyes as he spoke "Then why didn't you stay? We have problems too! Dogs came and killed Rabbit-" someone cut him off "ENOUGH!". It was Leafstar she opened her mouth to say something, but stopped. She turned her head sharply towards the entrance of the camp and she sniffed the air. " Does anyone smell that?" She hissed. All of a sudden, dogs burst out of the gorge, panting and drooling, blood slathered on there pelts and eyes hungry for the kill.

Chapter 3

They were the ugliest and biggest dogs Breezepelt had ever seen. They all had scars and scabs that hadn't healed, and one light gray and long haired dogs entire bottom jaw was missing. Giving it a eternal snarl.

Cats screeched and ran away, Warriors pushed to the front and started to fight the dogs off. Breezepelt felt Ivypool growl and start to advance on a dog that had cornered Harveymoon and Voletooth.

Breezepelt looked at his companions, they were frozen in fear, but Breezepelt spotted Mistystar and Blackstar battling a huge brown dog. It barked and snarled, pawing at the ground and lunging whenever Blackstar let his guard down. The apprentices just sat there in a huddled out circle, eyes as wide as moons. " MOVE YOUR TAILS AND HELP FIGHT!" Breezepelt shouted. They jumped and stared at him, eyes clouded, their fear scent so strong it choked him. Breezepelt shook his head and grabbed Foxpaw by the scruff shoving him into Icepaw.

Stumbling they clattered to the ground groaning. Whirling around, he pointed towards the fallen apprentices " Be better then them Shrewpaw and Olivepaw fight! Like true warriors instead of scared Kittypets!". Shrewpaw dipped his head and flung himself into the fight, Olivepaw followed letting out a battle cry. Screeches and howls echoed off the camp walls. The dogs were swarming into the camp making there way to.....
THE NURSERY!. Breezepelt pelted up the rocks. Jumping and using his hind legs he climbed toward the nursery. He had to take a different path then the dogs or they'd be sure to kill him. Digging his claws into the hard rock he hauled his body up and over a edge. He could hear the dogs snuffling and there tongues lolling. The nursery was a little ways off, all he needed was time. Bolting towards the entrance of the rocky cave, Breezepelt slipped inside of the nursery. It smelled of milk and kits, along with.... Fear. Soft moss covered the ground and cushioning his every step. It was a

hollow cave that led down a deep narrow tunnel. Breezepelt hurried along it, coming to another opening.Inside, lay a light brown she-cat with white belly and legs, mewling kits squirmed against her belly. It smelled, looked and sounded like they had just been born. Breezepelt walked over to the best sensing that something was wrong. Something dark stained her neck and head, and Breezepelt realized these kits had to just be born. Their pelts were slick and their eyes were tightly closed. There were six of them. The first one was a black and white speckled Tom. The second was a light brown ginger tabby she-cat, the third a white she-cat, another night black she-cat, and and two others, a dusky brown Tom, and a silver pelted one with white paws. Breezepelt looked more closely at the queens head, and he realized that her soft brown eyes were glazed over and the dark stain was blood. A open cut ran from her head to her stomach. She was dead and Breezepelt could hear a bark coming from outside. It was to late. The dogs were already here.

Chapter 4

Tigerstars pov.

Tigerstar growled, annoyed that the situation had come to this. Scourge and Sol sat in front of him, Eyes expectant, claws unsheathed. Scourge hissed and lashed his tail " This better be good Tigerstar, or I will end you for the second time" Scourge mewed, dog teeth and cat teeth poking out of his claws and his collar. Tigerstar narrowed his eyes *yeah right.* Sol, his fur slicked down and his tail thin and bushy looked like a lion analyzing its prey. Tigerstar flicked his tail towards the forest " If you serve me, and keep my clan strong, you will be granted a passage into Starclan". Scourge huffed, and Sol shifted his paws. Tigerstar knew this was an offer they could not turn down. Scourge tilted his head " No, I want more then a passage to Starclan" he snarled, digging his claws into the dirt Sol agreed " Yes, what we want is life". Tigerstar blanched "Ungrateful fools! That's Mouse-brained, bring a cat back to life? Nearly Impossible!". Scourge jumped up to his paws and bristled " Like you said *nearly* impossible, which means it can be done". Sol stayed calm and said in a deep voice " I will not help you unless you grant me life Tigerstar, if not, then your on your own". Scourge narrowed his eyes, arching his back he advance on Tigerstar. Tigerstar unsheathed his claws and tensed his muscles " maybe I could make something work". Thinking Tigerstar Thoug about something. He knew a cat that owned him something a cat in Starclan, that had never repayed the price. Tigerstar made a show of making his eyes light up but kept gaze stiff and commanding " I have a plan, but your going to help me with it" he mewed. Scourge bared his teeth " what makes you think that I won't kill you as soon as you find the answer?" He hissed, Togerstar felt an uncontrollable twinge of fear in his gut. Was he really going to do this? *Yes* he thought *I have to.* Without answering Scourge's question, Tigerstar turned and padded away not looking back, and gestures for them to follow. Fog started to creep in, soon engulfing Tigerstar, Scourge, and Sol completely.

Chapter 5

Grabbing the kits by there scruffs and laying some onto his back, Breezepelt searched the den, poking and prodding around the boulders trying to find a weak spot. Moss and leaves were stuffed into holes in the boulders, maybe he could weaken the rocks enough to make it give out.Finding an opening in the back of the den, he scraped at the leaves that were stuffed inside. He could hear the dogs even clearer now, they yelpped, and growled trying to squeeze into the narrow tunnel that led to Breezepelt and the kits. Finally, pulling out the leaves and debris, Breezepelt made a hole big enough to see through. Clenching the edges of the rock with his claws he pushed, making sure not to crush the kits in the process. The kits in particular weren't helping, as they were squirming and wiggling in his grasp. Grunting, Breezepelt summoned all of his strength and pushed. He felt the rocks starting to slide outward and a huge chunk gave way and tumbled outside. A sharp bark of alarm echoed through the cave as they discovered the second part of the nursery. Breezepelt glanced behind him, and had to bite back a shriek of terror as a huge brown and white dog was shoving his shoulders though the tunnel, eyes wild and focused on them. Panic coursing through Breezepelt, he stood up on his hind legs and gave one last shove. The wall gave away, rocks tumbled out of nowhere and light seeped inside of the nursery. The smell of the outside hit him like a slap in the face. Breathing a sigh of relief, Breezepelt squeezed through and landed on soft ground *I'm so sorry I couldn't save your mother little ones* he thought. One of the kits mewled and whimpered. Breezepelt, without looking back ran away from the nursery Gently and slowly started making his way down the rocks. The stench of blood mixed with dogs, lingered,as the fight was still going on. Dogs cornered groups of cats, and Breezepelt spotted Leafstar hunched over a Patchfoot, murmuring something to him.Patchfoot was still alive put it didn't look he'd still be breathing for long. A deep gash was imprinted in his head, as if a dog had clenched his teeth over it. The apprentices were helping the elders hissing and lunging whenever one got to close. Chaos was

everywhere.

Looking around, Breezepelt spotted a safe place to take the kits. It was a hollow hole, perfect for a hiding spot as a dogs snout could barely fit into it. Racing over Breezepelt gently layed the kits down. Making sure to cover them in dirt to hide there milk scent. He need to help and fight, it was something Nightcloud would want him to do. Scanning the feild, Breezepelt spotted a cat being shaken In a dogs grasp. Breezepelt snarled and leaped onto the back of the dog who was shaking around Voletooth as if he was nothing. Digging his claws into its shoulders, Breezepelt bit down hard on the dogs ear. Howling in pain, it dropped Voletooth. It started to spin and shake. Breezepelt lost his grip and flew off, flying into the air and hit the ground with a thud. The breath rushed out of him, he wanted to get up but all of a sudden a crushing weight held him down. It was the dog, it rancid breath rushed into his face, drool splattering everywhere. Breezepelt used all of his strength to hold the dog back from closing its jaws around his neck. Pain ripped through him as the dog bit down on his shoulder. It weakened his strength and he found himself being tossed into the air. Blood poured from his shoulder, and paws flailing, BreezePelt connected with a body. Rolling around, dirt flew into Breezepelts eyes and his shoulder slammed into the ground as the thing rolled with him. Shakily, Breezepelt struggled up, hissing in confusion and pain. Everything was a blur, and black spots started to appear in front of his eyes. The sound of fighting cats dimmed and quieted as if nothing was there anymore. *Stay awake Breezepelt, do it for the kits!* But he couldn't keep holding on. His consciousness was slipping away from him and fast. Swaying, Breezepelt blacked out. Though the last thing he saw, was Ivypool, and her beautiful blue concerned eyes.

Chapter 6

Breezepelt opened his eyes. He was in a ravaged den. Injured warriors surrounded them. *The dogs are merciless* he thought. Ivypool was curled up next to him,her head resting on his stomach, her eyes closed. Breezepelt felt himself purr and he gently licked Ivypools ear. He would never let anyone hurt her. Ever. Slowly, Breezepelt moved Ivypools head and got up. He bit back a gasp as pain shot through his shoulder. His muscles were stiff and his pelt ragged. Worry coursed through him as he spotted Webfoot laying in one of the nest. Slowly, Breezepelt brushed past the curtains of leaves that covered the medicine den. The crisp morning air and the smell of death met Breezepelts nostrils. The ground was muddy and uneven. Cats were gathered around bodies, paying respects to the lost. His stomach turned as he spotted Patchfoots body. *The kits!* The thought struck him hard. Fighting his exhaustion and forgetting his shoulder, Breezepelt ran toward the hollow hole. He peeked inside and realized with a sigh of relief they were gone. They were probably in the nursery. " We're they Clovertails kits?" A sharp voice asked. Turning around, a ginger Tom was bristling with anger. Breezepelt flicked his tail annoyed *who put ants in his fur?* Breezepelt felt a twinge of guilt at the thought of the motherless-kits and dead queen. Nodding, Breezepelt dipped his head "Yes they were". The Tom stepped closer " and you didn't save *her?* You left her for the dogs?" He accused. Surprised, Breezepelt shook his head "When I got there she was already dead, and I couldn't carry both her and the kits" he replied and made way to brush past the Tom, but before he could the Tom stepped in front of him to block the way. " What do you mean *she was already dead?* You could've came back for her! Where's your honor?" He challenged. Anger welled through Breezepelt, was this mouse-brain serious? Rising up to His full height Breezepelt puffed out his fur. No fake clan cat would dare challenge his honor. " Where's your respect? This is the time for mourning! Not for mouse- brains to start causing fights! I had to protect the kits first! And if you were in my situation you would do the same thing!" He spat. The ginger Tom was about to say something else but Breezepelt cut him off " no, don't say

anything else! When I say she was already dead, I mean her neck was slit open and her spirit had already gone to Starclan". The ginger tom lowered his head, and wailed in misery " I'm her *son* I should of been there for her but now she's dead! I'm sorry I bothered you its just.. It's just-" Breezepelt realized he shouldn't have been so hard on the warrior. Softly, he put his tail on the toms shoulder " What's your name?" Breezepelt questioned. The ginger Tom slowly met Breezepelts eyes " Bouncefire" Breezepelt raised his head to the clear sky " Starclan will take care of Clovertail, I promise.Don't forget that they blessed you with brother and sisters that you have to swear to protect" he sighed. Bouncefire drew himself up and his eyes became hard " I shall protect them and care for them with all my heart"Breezepelt dipped his head " well then you are a true warrior". "Bouncefire! Would you like to join a hunting patrol?" Sharpclaw called. Bouncefire turned to Breezepelt " I've got to go" Breezepelt nodded and turned to pad away but a voice stopped him " oh and Breezepelt?". Breezepelt turned " Yes, Bouncefire?". Bouncefire did something unexpected, he bowed " Id be honored to help gain your clan back".

Skyclan was busy. The Skyclan apprentices did training exercises and Patchfoot, Petalnose, Olivepaw and Shrewpaw say under the shade. Waspwhisker and Shrewtooth were sharing prey and Ebonyclaw, Echosong, Mallowkit,Featherkit, Eaglekit, and Emberkit were playing a game. It was nice to see that the cats were getting along, but a weird tension had settled over the camp. Instead of two cats out on guard there were four. Patrols held more cats then usual. Breezepelt made his way towards Leafstars den. They need help and fast. Breezepelt could sense something approaching, something bad. The clans need help. He spotted Firestar, Mistystar, Blackstar, and Leafstar in deep conversation. when Breezepelt came closer he realized that Firestar and the others had drawn formations in the dirt. Breezepelt dipped his head to the former leaders. He had a plan "What is it Breezepelt? " Mistystar questioned. Leafstar tilted her head. It was now or never " we must send a group of cats from each clan, to go back to Tigerclan". Blackstar snarled " Don't call them that! They don't deserve it". Breezepelt started to grow desperate "Once we find more loyal cats and find out their plan! We can take back our home!". Firestar contemplated this "It could work.." Leafstar flicked her tail "my warriors would gladly help you

in this battle but in exchange for it you must help us with the dogs". Breezepelt Grew excited. This had to work!. Firestar dipped his head " we shall announce who will be going on the patrol with you later, Meanwhile, get some rest, as you are going".

Chapter 7

Breezepelt was running, though he was sure he was dreaming. He wasn't in the dark forest but in Starclan. He could tell because the air was much clearer and The trees were alive and replenishing. Though he didn't know where to, he felt like he needed to see someone, like that someone was waiting for him... Somewhere. His legs carried him into territory, that had long grass that whipped at his pelt as he raced along it.Slowing down, Breezepelt felt himself start to go at a calmer pace, and he sensed he was almost there. Wherever he was going. Stalking down a hill he craned his ears listening he realized he could hear the trickle of water. Bursting into a sprint, Breezepelt brushed past a holly bush and finally he met a river. Pebbles as white as snow lay at the shore and, water lapped at the edges. The sand was soft under his paws and the wind rustled the reeds. The stars twinkled more intensely here as if he were somehow closer to the sky.The scuttling of plentiful prey met his ears. Sitting down Breezepelt waited. Soon, a pinkish gray she-cat with blue eyes slipped out of the tall reeds on the other side of the river. Breezepelt was about to say something, but The she-cat cut him off " I am Heatherstar, The leader before Tallstar, and I come with urgent news". Breezepelts eyes widened, his paws tingled. Heatherstar bunched her muscles and gracefully leaped over the small river. Seeing of fresh overturned grace and rabbits, she passed over to sit beside Breezepelt. Breezepelt blinked as he thought that he could see the landscape *through* her body. " Scourge and Sol are back, and Tigerclan is growing" she mewed, Breezepelt felt a pang of alarm. *Growing?* How many cats did Crowstar need to ensure his power? *How can we possibly win this battle?* Breezepelt felt as if he and his clanmates had hit a boulder in the path. He didn't know what to do. Heatherstar seemed to read his mind and she dipped her head. "We have watching over Tigerclan, and some cats don't like the idea of it, they are still loyal" she assured. Though Breezepelt was confused, he doubted there were more loyal cats left. Heatherstar sighed " They've lost sight of us Breezepelt, somehow the Dark forest cats have figured out how to block Starclan, how to make the cats only see the dark forest when get

dream" she started to growl and her claws unsheathed " they have evolved, and someone, someone dangerous has awoken". Breezepelts eyes widened in disbelief " how are we supposed to defeat them?" He lashed his tail. Starclan was supposed to have the answers! Why wouldn't they help him? Heatherstar gently lifted her star filled tail for silence " Every cat is different, Tigerstar believes they are all followers, but he is wrong, some of those cats are using him and take and use that as your advantage" she advised, turning she passed toward the river and crouched about to cross it again and leave. Though Breezepelt wasn't finished " Wait! What about the dogs?" Shivering, he remembered the drool and pure menace in their eyes. Heatherstar still in a crouch position turned her head towards him " Do not let that clan die Breezepelt, Skyclan is more important then you think". Breezepelt was about to ask another question, but a drowsy sensation came over him. His vision started to blue and his eyelids droop. Heatherstars voice echoed " Sleep well Breezepelt, and beware of the one with the blood on his collar". Everything went dark.

Chapter 8

Breezepelt jumped up, and screeched. His pet was sticky and his heart was beating so fast, he was surprised it hasn't burst. He unsheathed his claws, eyes wide. We're was he? What happened to Heatherstar? What did the prophecy mean? The answers and possibilities were endless. " Breezepelt! Are you ok? What's wrong?" Nightcloud stood next to him her eyes concerned. He was in the Skyclan warriors den, and he had woken everybody up. Well, most of the warriors were in the medicine den. Wounds still being tended to. Sharpclaw, who was in the nest next to him grumbled and sat up " Could you be any more louder?" He snapped, eyes narrowed. Breezepelt made himself relax and sheathe his claws. Ignoring Sharpclaws comment, he put a reassuring tail on Nightclouds shoulder. " How are the kits?" He mewed his voice was still uneven and he bristled. The dream still fresh in his mind. Nightcloud batted his tail away "Fine. They are growing and I think should be made into apprentices soon". Breezepelt blanched, *made into apprentices?* They were growing, but in order to be made into an apprentice..... Nightcloud dismissed it with her tail.
"Never mind that, I was sent here because the Leaders want you" she turned to walk away but stopped at the entrance " when you need to talk to me about the nightmares you've been having, ill be waiting" she added, and padded away. Breezepelt stiffened and stretched trying to relax his muscles, *they probably need me because they want to decide on who will accompany me on the trip.* Though when Breezepelt stepped outside and into the bright sunlight, he still felt at unease.

Chapter 9

Crowstars pov.

Crowstar clenched his eyes shut. Struggling to realize who was sitting in front of him. When Crowstar had brought the stranger to the camp, every cat growled and hissed, swiping at the air, tails lashing. Though the stranger didn't mind, and had just kept walking on, not even concerned that he was supposed to be dead. The stranger had a blood red collar with dog teeth sticking and poking out of it. He had one single white paw and he was the size of an apprentice. Though, Crowstar knew this cat was more dangerous then he looked. Scourge coolly curled his tail around his paws, his eyes cold and empty " I am alive" he stated and tilted his head. " I expect you to lead me back to my clan" he growled, scrapping his claws against the ground and ended up making deep gauges that could be his head. Crowstar tensed he knew how Scourge was unstable. " Now Scourge, you know that wasn't the deal" a sly voice warned. Crowstar recognized it instantly " Tigerstar!" He yowled whirling around he scanned the walls of the den. Tigerstar was sitting in the corner back arched and bristling. "Once you've done your duty, I will lead you back to Bloodclan" he hissed. Scourge flicked his tail " Fine! But don't forget why your in the dark forest in the first place because *i put you there so* don't make me do it again" he sent his own warning back Tigerstars way. Crowstar felt excitement filling through him "Tigerstar! How do you like Tigerclan so far?" Trying to keep the nervousness out of his voice, Crowstar drew himself up. Tigerstar glanced at Crowstar "Weak. This clan is Weak. The apprentices are training with claws sheathed and you've been in your Den nearly the whole day" he spat. Recoiling, Crowstar grew confused *but Tigerclan is growing!* Tigerclaw sniffed and shook his head " You are pitiful, and every cat knows your not strong enough to run a clan, especially not all four of them" advancing he took a step towards Crowstar. Voice low and angry he hissed "and to think Kittypets still run free in the clan, Thunderclan is infested with them, and Firestar and them are still out there!" Unsheathing his claws Tigerstar crouched. Scourge

smiled evilly. Crowstar couldn't hide his fear anymore. Shaking he unsheathed his claws and backed up until his rump hit the back of the cave. *No, how could this be?* " I know where they are! I can kill them for you!" Desperately Crowstar swatted at Tigerstar, causing Tigerstar to back up. Then something happened. Tigerstar body started to *form* and become *real*. His fur became bushier, his eyes going from the dull Amber, to a lively Amber color. Tigerstar grinned and flexed his claws staring at himself as he came back to life. " Now" He pointed his tail towards Crowstar, " I will enjoy killing you". Crowstar was all of a sudden pinned to the ground. Claws dug into his chest and yowls of pain filled the room. Crowstar realized that he was the one yowling and as his final lives faded away, a single thought came to mind: *I'm sorry, Nightcloud..... I've made a terrible, horrible mistake.* His eyes glazed over and his body grew limp. Eternal darkness took over. Crowstar was no more.

Chapter 10

[image]

Blackstar approached Breezepelt slowly, eyes narrowed. Leopard star sat patiently a few ways off, her eyes trained on Breezepelt. Firestar and Mistystar, and Leafstar sat together, heads close and whispering stealing glances at him. Shifting, Breezepelt sat there confused and nervous. Blackstar finally spoke " we have made a discussion about who will be going on the trip" he mewed. Leafstar nodded and flicked her tail " I shall call a meeting" she announced and started to make her way towards the Sky Rock. Blackstar came closer, and whispered "Go join her" Breezepelt jumped back in surprise. Windclan cats did not like to climb. Though, he has to admit, his pads had gotten hard and used to the rough ground. Nodding, Breezepelt bunched his legs and jumped up on a nearby rock that led to the path up to the Sky-rock. He realized that Leafstar was waiting for him, as she was leaning down ready to grab his scruff if he fell. Breezepelt, unsheathed his claws and dug them into the hardened clay. Hauling himself up, and up, until finally he felt Leafstar grasp his scruff. Pulling hm up onto the rock, he heard Leafstar yowl " All cats old enough to catch there own prey join here beneath sky-rock for a meeting!". Cats started to emerge from the Warriors den, eyes curious. Leafstar lashed her tail " I know that we are still... Injured from the attack" she mewed. " More then *injured* we'd lost cats Leafstar" Sharpclaw added from below. Breezepelt spotted Bouncefire sitting next to a small white she-cat, he thought he saw a snarl on the small white she-cats lips. Murmurs of agreement and grief rose up, and Leafstar raised her tail for silence "Correct Sharpclaw, and may Starclan grant them peace, but there is a solution!" She continued and looked towards Breezepelt. " Breezepelt? Would you like to explain the plan?" She hissed under her breath. Breezepelt took a step forward, raising his voice and making clear as day. "Before the dog attack happened, Firestar was saying that or clanmates had turned on us and that we need help"someone cut him off before he could continue " and like I said before, why do you wanna go
Back if they betrayed you? What makes you so sure they want you

back? I mean if they chose to not follow you why would they choose to be with you again?" A small voice accused. Breezepelt turned towards the voice. It was Flamepaw, *stupid ginger fox hearted she-cat* he thought. Anger made him unsheathe his claws and dig them into the hard ground. Glaring at the ignorant apprentice he spat back " because they don't have a choice, mouse-brain! There numbers were growing even *before* the clans knew. And they actually have family and kits and elders to take care of and protect! So don't even speak or utter a word about the *my* clan or the only thing you'll be asking is for mercy when I'm done with you!" Bristling he arched his back and let a yowl of frustration. Everyone is was quiet. Breezepelt realized that every cat was staring at him, as if he were crazed. Flamepaw was cowering down on to the ground, shaking. Her eyes were widened in fear. *What have I done?* Then he had a horrifying thought *am I becoming like Crowstar? And I becoming evil like him?* Breezepelt stuttered over his next words "I-I'm sorry Flamepaw.. It's just-" his thoughts were jumbled and confused. The cats in the front row started to back away. Scared. Scared of *him.* Breezepelt felt his heart shatter into pieces, making his voice hard and commanding he spouted it the plan " if you help us, we shall extinguish the dogs forever. All we need is a few cats to come with us on a journey and spy on them, find there weak spots" he mewed. His voice echoed, Finally someone broke the silence it was Leafstar " Does anyone disagree with this plan?" She inquired. Silence. Breezepelt shifted uncomfortably. "How can we trust you!! You yelled at an apprentice!!" Sharpclaw announced. Agreement rose up and pelts started to bristle. ". Yeah! How can we trust you!!!!" Breezepelt took a step back mortified. Fear at what he had done slowly started to creep up on him. "Please! You have to help!" He pleaded. Desperate he lashed his tail trying to sound hard and commanding again but he failed. Voices rose. Arguments started, Leafstar hissed at them to be quiet. Finally, Breezepelt couldn't take it anymore " I SHALL ANNOUNCE WHO WILL BE COMING!" he hissed. Cats quieted down. Breezepelt raised his voice. "Leaders of the clans will travel with me. Along with Bouncefire, Ivypool, Foxpaw, and Willowshine". Voice cracking, Breezepelt started to make his way to the ground. Cats started to disperse, and head back to there dens. Tallpoppy and Crowfrost sat side by side sharing a mouse. Heavystep and the rest of the apprentices were practicing battle training. He could hear Icepaw complaining " How come you

get to go and I can't?" She objected. Foxpaw shrugged " I going to miss you, otherwise" he mewed simply. *None of these cats trust me, do they even know what there in for?*

Chapter 11

Breezepelt was in the forest of Skyclan. After the terrible meeting he decided he need somewhere quite somewhere... Peaceful and open. The Stars twinkled intensely and the moon was full. The rustle of sleeping prey and the buzzing of bugs and crickets met his ears. The wind was quiet and settled. Breezepelt sighed, stress weighed heavily on his shoulders. He knew that the only way to defeat Tigerstar and his cronies were to find there weak spots. The only way to do that was get closer to them. Though Flamepaws words still echoed in his mind. Will the clans ever be able to trust anyone ever again? *Is this all for nothing? What if cats die?* And worst of all, the thought that Breezepelt feared the most; *what if we fail?*

The bushes behind him rustled. "Breezepelt are you okay?" A slender and beautiful Ivypool slid out of the thickets. She slowly padded over to him, her eyes cautious. Breezepelt sat up, he couldn't deny his feelings for her. " Um fine.." He managed, Ivypool rubbed her pelt against him and purred. " You know.. Flamepaw and everything everyone has been saying. They are wrong. I know they are, I know your the bravest cat out of all of them, even me" she mewed and stretched out of the grass next to Breezepelt. Breezepelt shook his head, his thoughts jumbled, he tried to be strong but failed " No. I'm not brave Ivypool" he objected, staring at the ground and not looking at her. Ivypool rested her tail on his shoulder "Breezepelt I-" he cut her off and turned away " I'm not brave. I try to be, I try to act and make everyone think I'm brave, but...." He broke off and his eyes watered, shakily he spit out the truth " I'm scared Ivypool, I'm scared all the time, I was scared when those dogs attacked the camp, I was scared when Crowstar betrayed the clans, *I'm scared of them, I'm scared of the Dark Forest cats Ivypool* ! I'm anything but brave". Silence. He felt Ivypool shift and press her flank against his. "Breezepelt.. I never realized that.... I'm so sorry! I should've noticed, but Breezepelt, every time a problem comes your way you push cats away that are trying to help you! You can't do everything, you realize that don't you?" She murmured. Breezepelt purred, he felt better opening up to

Ivypool.... "Ivypool, I love you" he mewed loud and clear. Ivypool chuckled " You better, since your expecting my kits!". Breezepelt felt surprised and a burst of protection. " Kits? That's wonderful!" He yowled, he wanted to shout to the stars! He purred so hard it made his belly rumble. Ivypool flicked her tail and licked her paws " let's not tell anyone just yet. We don't know how they will react to us being together." She continued and narrowed her eyes and growled determined" Though I'm still going on the mission with you, I want to be there every step of the way okay?" She meowed. Breezepelt. nodded, he knew there was no changing Ivypools mind when it was set. Breezepelt watched as Ivypool laid down on the ground and curled up to sleep, her breathes going from quick and open to deep and snoozy. Breezepelt sighed and curled up next to her, content. They would be leaving Tomorrow, and there was no turning back.

Chapter 12

" Have a safe trip! Get our clans back!" Cats yowled. Breezepelt, Ivypool, Bouncefire, Blackstar, Mistystar, a nervous and fretful Foxpaw, and Willowshine were slowly filling out of the skyclans camp. Ivypool pressed shading Breezepelt " This is it, this is the journey" she mewed. She slowly took Breezepelts paws and lifted it to her belly. Breezepelt bit back a gasp as he felt Ivypools belly squirm a little with the kits. Ivypool looked at him love in her eyes " and they are ready to" Blackstar flicked his tail as a signal to leave. They mission had begun.

They sat crouched gazing at the fence that led to the clans. Mistystar curled her tail around her paws"I feel so homesick, I've been getting tired of just seeing trees, trees and even more trees" she mewed. Breezepelt growled in agreement. He missed the wind coursing through his fur, and the smell of wind and rabbits on the fresh kill pile. Foxpaw dug his claws into the fence and started to haul himself over it. " Well, what are we waiting for? Let's go!" He mewed, Breezepelt sighed *why did I bring an apprentice with me?* Though even though Foxpaw was obnoxious he was more stealthy and smaller them the other apprentices, he'd be useful when sneaking to and from camps.

Clawing his way up into the fence, Breezepelt rested there and sniffed the air. The moor was a little ways off, and he realized it would be a gathering soon. *Perfect. We can spy on them there.*

Chapter 13

Tigerstar pov

Tigerstar flicked his tail as a signal for the clans to follow him. Some cats bristled and some accepted his arrival
From the dead. The stupid kittypet Scourge, had run ahead murmuring mouse-brained nonsense about BloodClan. *Nor does he know that his clan is far away, in the old territory.* He chuckled and continue on his way up the hill to the Gathering. The full moon shine but clouds covered half of it. *Who cares what Starclan thinks anymore? Now, every cat will bow down to me!* He thought. Clambering onto the slippery log that led to the island he easily jumped to the other side. He growled in annoyance as cats started to slowly cross the log, eyes wary. The only two cats that made it over quickly was his two sons Brambleclaw and Hawkfrost. Hawkfrost dipped his head " great to see you again Father, in the flesh" he mewed. Brambleclaw, his true favorite just narrowed his eyes and nodded. Impatient, Tigerstar looked Over Hawkfrost's shoulder and glanced at the cats. Some of them had made it already but they were taking to long. *By the time all of them get over, the sun will be up!!* He hissed. U sheathing his claws Tigerstar raised his voice
" Hurry up!! Get your flanks over here or I'll make you!" Yowling he leaped onto the log. He started to rock it back and forth and he watched as a light ginger tabby lose her balance and hurtle off into the river below. *Well there goes Sandstorm, Berrynose, and some Riverclan cat* he felt himself start to smile evilly. Hawkfrost murmured ""We will always remember you Robinwing" Tigerstar snorted *he wasn't worth it anyway.* Seeing that the clan cats were with him he broke into a run into the clearing, leaping into the tree . Scourge was already there in a branch lower then his. He scoffed as the cats slowly stopped talking to look at him. Tigerstar began, " I shall speak first" he mewed in pleasure. Thunder crackled across the sky. Ignoring it, he went on " I have returned, your previous leader Crowstar was weak, and pathetic" he spat, *What was that? Were those growls coming from Windclan?* Unsettled he narrowed his

eyes *these cats are loyal to me and me only!*
" The time has come for Tigerclan to take power and rule out those who are weak and scared! Windclan! shadowclan! Riverclan! And thunderclan! You are now Tigerclan! I am your leader! You listen to me and me only, and if you don't.... Tigerclan unsheathed his claws and made a slicing motion over his neck. Cats didn't cheer only a few growls and hoots but nothing else. Tigerstar screeched " DID I STUTTER!!?!CHANT!CHANT MINIONS!" His eyes we're crazed. Tigerstar felt this feeling of loss of control and anger come over him. When there was still silence he cocked his head and smiled " Everyone start hunting and making a pile of bones" he yowled " sitting in this tree bores me".

Chapter 14

Breezepelt and his clanmates watched the gathering in horror from above. He was awestruck as the news of his father hit him like a ton of bricks. *Is he really dead? just like that?* He scolded himself, *why do you even care? He's the reason why your up in this stupid tree.* Though it felt as though a rock had settled in Breezepelts stomach. His father was gone. Tigerstar and Scourge *who are supposed to be dead, are alive.* These crazed thoughts were blocked, as a strong gust of wind shook the branch fiercely. Wind lab cats didn't climb, Wind Clan cats don't enjoy heights. *Why am I even doing this?* They had snuck through the fence, running across the moor and to the gathering. If Foxpaw hadn't pointed out the tall tree with branches that hung over the clearing, they would of been spotted. He watched as cats split up And started to file off the island, looking for prey. Blackstar edged closer to Mistystar and Mistystar turned her head to lick Blackstars ears and quietly purr. Breezepelt wrinkled his nose. What was going on? More cats left the island until it was almost deserted. *What in the name of Starclan is Tigerstar doing?* Only a few cats remained, and Foxpaw softly mewed "we should attack" shifting his paws he narrowed his eyes at Tigerstar. Breezepelt glanced at Foxpaw whose tail was swaying nervously " are you mouse- brained? Do you want to compromise the whole mission?" Breathing low he hissed in his ear " Do you want to get us killed?". He watched as Foxpaws fur rose, the wind rustled the branches of the tree and Breezepelt froze. Clenching the bark harder, he listened. The was a huge creak! And the branch gave way, tumbling into the clearing. Foxpaw was thrown off of it and hurtled towards the ground. Breezepelt was spinning and spinning. Until the impact of the ground knock the air out of him. Searing pain went from his neck to his spine. The last thing he saw was the cloud covered
moon, as Starclan stared down at him.

Chapter 15

Breezepelt awoke to the sound of a struggling cat. It was Bouncefire. Bouncefire was yanking and pulling against some vines that had thistles wedged in them that held him back , and his mouth was covered with vines also. Bouncefire's eyes were wide, and when he noticed Breezepelt awake, he stopped struggling and tried to talk but his voice came out muffled and gibberish. Breezepelt was about to move to free him when he realized that he was tied up to, and so was Mistystar, and Blackstar writhing against their own binds. *At least Willowshine and Ivypool stayed back at the fence.* "Breezepelt! Help!!" Breezepelts head snapped up. Foxpaw and Willowshine!! They were both tied against the huge trunk of the Big Oak. Willowshine's eyes glistened with panic and Foxpaw was trying to gnaw off his binds, but something tied around his muzzle kept him from chewing on them. Foxpaw was on the left side of the oak tree, while WillowShine was on the right. They were positioned as if they were hugging the tree, and if there fear scent wasn't so alarming he'd be laughing.
The snickers of the surrounding cats silenced as Tigerstar slowly stalked out of the darkness of the gigantic oak, eyes hard and cold. His claws glinted in the moonlight, and Breezepelt realized it was darker then usual. Glancing up at the sky, he gasped. The moon had disappeared. It was no where to be seen, and the stars were the only source of light available. *Starclan? Are you still watching?* Tigerstar chuckled, " Who is your leader?" Snarling he looked at every cat tied up, dead in the eye. When his cold Amber eyes landed on Breezepelt, recognition flashed through them. Breezepelt growled *I have to show that In not afraid.* " What?" He challenged "Afraid of me? Scared I'm going to hurt you? Why don't you let me go and We'll fight like real warriors" struggling against his vines to show that he *wanted* to fight. Tigerstars made no move at all just sat there and tilting his head, he smiled wickedly " ahhhh! So I'm guessing your Crowstars son? I didn't know you were as stupid and ungrateful as him too" Tigerstar faced Willowshine who shivered away from Tigerstars crazed gaze. Foxpaw struggled " Get away from her Badger breath!" He yowled, Breezepelt gave Foxpaw a

hard stare. Though that did nothing to silence the stubborn apprentice. " Fleabag! Coward! My sister could take *you* down!" He hissed. Cats around them started to bristle uncertainly . Tigerstar was a blur of fury, it happened so quickly. Foxpaw all of a sudden had a huge scratch over his face. His eyes were shocked, and his mouth still open from his last words, Foxpaw gasped and screeched in pain. Tigerstar hissed and leapt over to Foxpaw. He was so close that Foxpaws the fur rose and fell as Tigerstar breathed. Foxpaw flinched away from Tigerstar, his claws unsheathed but his posture defensive. Willowshine gasped and looked at Breezepelt with pleading eyes. Breezepelt felt panic and bile rise in his throat. What *do I do? Tigerstar is crazy and unpredictable! I need a strategy a plan! But..... What?* Breezepelt watched as Tigerstar raised his voice to address the cats that were still there. " Ashfoot! Come forward!" He mewed. Breezepelt flinched, *what does Ashfoot have to do with anything?* and then a growl escaped his throat. She just gave up her kits like they were nothing! he would make her sorry, She can watch as they become great warriors. Ashfoot emerged from behind him. Her head was held high and her claws unsheathed. Dipping her head "Yes Tigerstar?" She mewed quietly, Tigerstar nodded in approval "Claim your loyalty to me, by disposing of *Breezepelt*" .Growling, Ashfoot whirled around to face Breezepelt. The sadness in her eyes surprised him. *Isn't this what she wanted? Is Ashfoot regretting her decision?* Breezepelt waited for the moment we're the she-cat swore loyalty to Tigerclan, he flinched as she aimed her unsheathed claws to his belly *is this how I'm going to end? How can Ivypools kits have there father killed before he sees them! i can't let them down! I won't be like Crowstar.* Ashfoot let out a ferocious yowl and brought her claws down. Struggling Breezepelt tried to free himself, but it was too late. He braced himself waiting for searing pain to crawl up his belly. Though, there was only, silence. Tigerstar incredulous, screeched "well what are you waiting for? Do it! DO IT NOW!".

Chapter 16

Ashfoot stepped back, head hung low in shame " I can't" she choked " I can't kill one of my clanmates Tigerstar". Tigerstar hissed and crouched "Traitor! after you so easily gave away your kits, This is to hard for you?". Ashfoot gasped " My kits! Are they ok?Ive made a mistake! Oh My kits they're gone!" Emotion flooded Ashfoot's eyes. Breezepelts muscles relaxed but his heart was beating fast and his eyes wide, *Ashfoot still cares for her kits? Why did she leave them in the first place?* Confusion had settled in his mind. Tigerstar yowled and lunged towards Ashfoot, Breezepelt struggled against his binds, watching as Tigerstar pinned Ashfoot down. " How could you Betray our kits like that?" He mewed. Ashfoot tried to push him off, but Tigerstar held fast. Foxpaws eyes widened. Breezepelt could read his expression *Ashfoot expecting kits? With Tigerstar?. B*reezepelt gave one last pull against his binds, they came loose and dropped to the ground with a
THUD!
Tigerstar looked up " What the-" he cut off as Breezepelt braced his hauches and leaped at Tigerstar. It was like hitting a brick wall, but Tigerstar stunned clattered to the ground. Ashfoot jumped up and scurried away, and Breezepelt hissed " Coward!". Breezepelt freed Foxpaw and Willowshine. Willowshine licked Foxpaws wound clean. A brittle a voice rasped " You think you can just get rid of me just like that?" Tigerstar rose from the ground. " Tigerclan! He yowled " Attack!". Breezepelt watched with wide eyes as cats started to pour out of the trees, bones of various creatures in there mouths. Foxpaw had freed Bouncefire and the Leaders. Bouncefire gasped " what do we do now?". Breezepelt felt fear crawl through his paws, " Run". Taking off the cats streaked into the forest. He heard Tigerstar screech " Don't let them escape! Kill them! Kill them all!".
Paws of pursuit echoed in Breezepelts ears. They needed to get to Twoleg place. Quickly. Leaves and branches whipped at his face as they ran towards the slippery log. They hurtled over logs and fallen branches. Breezepelt dug his claws into the [rough bark and ran over it, jumping safely on the other side. He ran after Foxpaw who was leading the way to Twoleg place. A yowl met his ears and a

voice rose above the din
" Wait! let me come with you please!!" Breezepelt looked behind him. Ashfoot was running as fast as she could trying to keep up but her belly made her slow every once in a while. The wind rushed through his ears as he stopped and ran towards her. Ashfur was breathing heavily and Breezepelt supported her with his shoulder.

Ashfur was laying down right outside of the fence. She was groaning, and Foxpaw impatiently paced " what's wrong with her? We need to go!" Misty star hissed " Be quiet! Her list are probably unsettled because of her running!" She curled around Ashoot trying to give her comfort. Black star was guarding " how are we supposed to get to Skyclan *now?"* Bouncefire nodded, " Breezepelt lets just leave her here with Tigerstar, they are mates and mates take care of each other". Willowshine lashed her tail " not Tigerstar, didn't you see how he pinned her down? Total lunatic.". Breezepelt sighed " can't you give her something that will give her strength just enough so that she can make it?" He asked. Willowshine growled " unless you want her to have her kits now we are not going anywhere". Foxpaw's tail twitched " where did Scourge go?". Breezepelt shivered as he heard the evil cats name. "what do you mean?"Blackstar persisted and scanned the forest one more time. Foxpaw shook his head " when I was hit, scourge was there and then when Ashfoot was pinned, he was gone". Mistystar gasped " your right!", Ashfoot moaned " please don't take me back to Tigerstar, Scourge was only there because of a agreement they had, nothing important." Breezepelt paced worry fogging his brain " A agreement? What kind of agreement? An Alliance?" He mewed Boucefire sat down and groomed his back " If it's an Alliance then we're in trouble" Breezepelt hissed " if it's an alliance, then we must leave". Motioning with his tail to leave Breezepelt jumped onto the fence.
" Ashfoot get up. If you want to join us, then stay strong and bare with us".

Chapter 17

Tigerstars Pov.

"Fools!" Tigerstar hissed as he watched the cats escape. What Breezepelt and his friends didn't know was that they were being followed, they would be in for a surprise when Tigerstar and his clanmates destroy them. It actually hurt that his mate had run away, but he could get over it. His son Brambleclaw narrowed his eyes " Father, we should leave now if we want to catch up with them" he hissed. Hawkfrost nodded
" Yes, the longer we wait they get farther and farther away" he mewed. Brambleclaw muttered " I especially want to be able to meet my other half brothers and sisters". Tigerstar winced at the Prospect of Ashfoot. " Let's go" Tigerstar sighed. He was back, and he was going to stay that way.

Chapter 18

Breezepelt and his troops were rushing throughout the whole journey back to Skyclan. They didn't bother to stop, and when Foxpaw fell over a wooden plank and to the ground, Breezepelt just hoisted him onto his back and continued to run. Ashfoot
Was limping but they needed to keep going. He knew that they were coming and They needed to warn everyone, just the thought of Ivypool sitting back home wondering when Breezepelt was was even alive made Breezepelt pump his legs faster and Foxpaw grunted as he slid off of Breezepelts back and cluttered to the ground. Though Foxpaw didn't complain, he knew it to, and his sister was probably running through his mind.

They burst into a clearing, wind blowing in Breezepelts face. Then, he heard a screech of pain that made his blood pound and his fur fluff out. He whirled around and saw Ashfoot, lying splayed on the ground, twitching and gasping in pain. "The kits... They're coming!" She howled. Breezepelt growled in frustration, he unsheathed his claws
" Get up!" He said more forcefully then he meant to. Mistystar her fur rising,she hissed " What is wrong with you? Willowshine! What do we need to get?!?". Blackstar just sat and watched as Ashfoot cringed and moaned. Willowshine replied " get the biggest Stick you can get!". Mistystar nodded and darted off. Breezepelt bristled *why did I let her come with?* He thought, Ashfoots belly convulsed. Willowshine was murmuring in her ear. Boucefire had flopped to the ground, tired from the full on run. Foxpaw was quickly lapping up some water from a small puddle. Ashfoot screamed, Willowshine mewed " that's one!" Breezepelt could here mewing, though he wasn't paying attention. He was scared and confused and all he could do was listen. Ashfoot let out a groan " That's a second one!" Willowshine announced. Willowshine gasped " That's four kits!". Mistystar arrived, stick in jaws " I found the per- but then broke off when she heard the mewling of newborn kits. Breezepelt opened his clenched eyes and padded over to Ashfoot. Four mewling Kits sucked at her belly trying to get milk. Willowshine whispered " 3

boys 1 girl". Ashfoot looked at them, lovingly.
" The white She-cat with the black stripes and shall be Blizzardkit, The gray tom with the brown paw and the white underbelly is Splashkit, the pale brown tom with gray spots shall be Dapplekit, and finally, the black one with the white stripes shall be Moonkit". Ashfoot pointed at each one with her tail, Purring.
Then, Breezepelt heard the worst sound in the world. The sound that would make your spine crawl with fear. The sound that would make you pull your fur out with Frustration. Breezepelt heard the sound of pounding footsteps, multiple cats approaching. He heard them chanting
" Tigerclan! Tigerclan!", and they were getting closer and closer. Bouncefire gasped " No! It can't be!". Though he knew it could. Tigerclaw was here, and so was the rest of the clans, his worst nightmares were that his clanmates all wanted to destroy them, and Breezepelt feared that it was going to come true.

Chapter 19

Breezepelt grabbed Ashfoot's kits. Ashfoot lashed her tail, and said tiredly ' Im afraid Im not going with you, take my kits to safety'. Mistystar ignoring Ashfoots request tried to lift her, though when she only succeeded in getting Ashfoot a few feet off the ground, Mistystar hissed in anger. " Blackstar! help me! I'm not going to let these kits go abandoned!". Blackstar crept closer to Mistystar and shook his head his expression grim "she's to heavy to carry, and she can't walk any further". The sound of footsteps got louder and louder, birds that were disturbed from the noise flew into the sky, cawing. Breezepelt felt the newborn kits squeal in his grasp. The realization of what he had to do hit him hard, He had no choice. He narrowed his eyes at Bouncefire who was poised in a defense position, ready to take on any cat. Foxpaw was pacing, his tail swing back and forth. " Foxpaw, I need you to protect Ashfoot with your *life*, understand? Don't let any cats get near her!" and turning Breezepelt let his eyes fall onto Bouncefire. Bouncefire, had lost so much. Why was he so willing to help some cats that he could just turn away from? BounceFire could easily just go home to his clan, leaving the clan cats to solve there own problems. Though he didn't, and Breezepelt felt these cats loyalty create new strength in him. Determination. Foxpaws eyes widened " what are you going to do?"he yelped. Breezepelt felt his fur rise as the first few cats burst into the clearing, Foxpaw whirled around and unsheathed his claws, facing them. Everyone else did the same. Ashfoot hissed, and lashed her tail, but made no move to get up, her eyelids droopy. Without a second thought, Breezepelt turned and ran, towards the Skyclan camp as fast as he could. He pumped his legs faster, hurtling up a hill and diving through bushes that were in his way. He tried to make the ride as smooth as possible, because Ashfoots kits squirmed with every bump.

Finally, Breezepelt spotted the familiar gorge. Wind lashed at his face violently as he felt a slimmer of hope blossom in his chest. He

dashed across the field and came towards the rocks. he remembered his fall andmade sure to pay attention where he was putting his paws. Jumping down, one by one with ease, he came to the Skyclan camp floor. All of a sudden, Harveymoon, Ebonyclaw, and the rest of Skyclan was there. Breezepelt saw a flash of orange and Firestar was raising his voice, yowling "give him some room!'. Breezepelt out of breath, screeched " We Need help! Now!"

Chapter 20

Mummers sounded around the clearing " Where did those kits come from?" A curious Stormpaw mewed. Firestar shushed him with a look, and Stormpaw backed away. *These fools are wasting time!* Breezepelt wanted to begin his story. The Clan cats were probably charging and fighting, the thought of Foxpaw being pinned down by one of his own clanmates made him want to scream.
Breezepelt lashed his tail " Listen up! Your clanmates are in trouble! Ashfoot and her kits are out there and only Foxpaw and Bouncefire are there to protect her!". Firestar was quick
"Leafstar! I'm sorry if I am testing my authority and welcome, but pick 10 warriors to come fight! There shall be a second wave just in case" he mewed. Leafstar was there in seconds " Yes Firestar, as long as your here, *you* are the leader now." Leafstar dipped her head though she announced " If it gets to dangerous, your on your own. I will not sacrifice warriors for your problems". Sharpclaw growled. Firestar flicked his tail at this remark "Sharpclaw? Are we going to have any problems?" Firestar dipped his head at Sharpclaw " I hand my responsibility as picking warriors, you know your warriors better than I do. After all, you *are* the deputy".

Foxpaw slashed his claws down the muzzle of Brambleclaw he frowned Thunderclan deputy. Bouncefire covered him from behind and Foxpaw felt a swirl of satisfaction as Brambleclaw started to back away, eyes like his fathers. Cats surrounded them, the cats Foxpaw had grown up with some he didn't know yet. Ashfoot all the while howled and hissed like they were just rogues. Rogues that took her kits away. The only thing that made her less intimidating was that she was lying on the ground and her eyes were exhausted. All of a sudden Foxpaw was struck in the side. He stumbling and yowled Whirling around to find Hawkfrost. Foxpaw lashed out with his claws and missed Hawkfrost by Inches.
" Why you little..." He growled and lunged. Foxpaw braced himself as he was pounded by a flurry of paws as he was knocked down,

Foxpaw thrashed and swung his claws and bit the air, until he felt his jaws meet fur. The weight ontop of him lifted. Scrambling to his paws, he hissed. " Traitors! The clans shall be forever broken!!" Leaping back towards Ashfoot, Foxpaw spat and lashed his tail. His vision swam, he had taken serious wounds, but he had to keep fighting he had to stay alive. His swooned threatening to fall, but a warm flank caught him.
Bouncefire? No. Sandstorm. Her green eyes narrowed into his. Though the coldness made him flinch away, he stumbled back to Bouncefire. Blackstar was dueling with three huge toms, and Mistystar was fending off a gray she-cat that smelled of fish. Hissing whenever she came near but making no move to Scratch or harm her. Foxpaw kept his eyes on Sandstorm who was slowly advancing on them. A voice reached through the fight. "STOP!". His claws tinged with blood,woozy from his wounds Foxpaw felt a glimmer of hope. *Breezepelt? Could he be coming to the rescue?.* The sea of cats parted, and Tigerstar strolled through, " You have lost, so stop fighting! Breezepelt is dead! I killed him!" He mewed. Foxpaw felt terror tear through his heart. *killed? It can't be! He can't be dead! Oh Starclan please don't let it be!*

Allegiances

ShadowClan (Group)
Leader; Blackstar; is a muscular, sleek, broad-chested, tall, large white tom with jet-black paws, a long tail, a scarred, patchy pelt, and six toes on one of his paws.

WARRIORS
Kinkfur; tabby she-cat, with long fur that sticks out at all angles.

Smokefoot; black tom

Crowfrost; black and white tom

Shrewpaw; gray she-cat with black feet

Olivepaw; tortoiseshell she-cat

Queens;

Snowbird; a heavily pregnant pure-white she cat.
Elders;
Tallpoppy; long legged light brown tabby she -cat

Cedarheart; dark gray tom

Riverclan
Leader; Mistystar;gray she- cat with blue eyes

Medicine;
Willowshine: gray tabby she-cat

Warriors;

Beechfur; light brown tom

Voletooth; small brown tabby tom

Pinefur; very short-haired tabby she -cat

Dapplenose; mottled gray she-cat

Apprentices
Minnowpaw; dark gray she-cat

Elders;

Heavystep; thickset tabby tom

Swallowtail; dark tabby she-cat

Thunderclan

Leader; Firestar; ginger tom with a flame colored pelt.

Warriors;

Graystripe; long haired gray tom

Squirrelflight; dark ginger she-cat with green eyes.

Thornclaw; golden brown tabby tom

Honeyfern; light brown tabby she-cat

Queens

Ivypool- white tabby she-cat

Apprentice:

Foxpaw;reddish tabby tom

Icepaw; white she-cat

Windclan;

Warriors;

Breezepelt; black tom with amber eyes

Nightcloud; black she- cat

Webfoot; dark gray tabby tom

Weaselfur;is a lithe ginger tom with white paws.

Elder;

Morningflower; is a light tortoiseshell she-cat with amber eyes.

Kits;

Mallowkit; a dark gray she-cat with light gray spots, and fur as soft as rabbit fur.

Eaglekit: a dark light brown tabby tom with crisp blue eyes.

Featherkit: a soft light gray tabby she cat with gray eyes and sharp features.

Emberkit: dark brown tabby tom with eyes like fire.

Chapter 21

Tigerstar swung his tail happily, a joyful bounce in his step. Though this scene was nothing but sadness and misery. This was a scene of pure madness and betrayal. Foxpaw was so caught up in his thoughts that he didn't hear Bouncefire give a yowl of warning. He was so caught up in his fury that he didn't see Tigerstar lunge for his throat. He reacted to late, he was already wounded and Tigerstar easily knocked him down. Foxpaw yowled, thinking of Icepaw. He would miss her, he hoped with all his heart he could get to see her again. Tigerstar's eyes flared "Everyone! Anyone who dares defy me shall suffer the same consequence as this runt who calls himself *loyal"* Tigerstar said loyal like it was a troublesome thorn stuck in his paw. Foxpaw growled " You'll never get away with this!", Tigerstar threw his head back and laughed " Who's going to stop me? Your precious Breezepelt is dead!". Dread coursed through him. Tigerstar cackled and lifted his sharp claws. "Traitors aren't welcome, and a traitor dies like a no good rogue!" Tigerstar snarled eyes glinting. Foxpaw shook his head "Just like you did?" he spat. the smile dissapeared from Tigerstars face " Don't worry, I'll make this long and painful". *I love you Icepaw! I'll always remember to guide you in Starclan!*

A sharp yowl cut through the air, and a white blur slammed into Tigerstar knocking him to the ground. *Icepaw*! Foxpaw sprang to his paws. looking around, his eyes widened. A black cat with amber eyes was fiercely fighting Sandstorm and Hollyleaf at the same time. " Breezepelt! Your not dead!" , distracted by Foxpaws outburst, Breezepelt stumbled when trying to make a swipe at Hollyleafs muzzle. Fighting cats took over the clearing, and bunching his haunches and tensing his muscles he made to leap to Breezepelts rescue. though it was to late. Writhing and spitting cats rolled in his way and cats started to crowd. " SKYCLAN ATTACK!".

Chapter 22

Hollyleaf slid to the side, her green eyes narrowed, Sandstorm did the same and they rounded on Breezepelt.
These cats know what's actually happening he thought *they chose to betray their clan, others were forced.* Sandstorm made a move to tackle Breezepelt backside, though he was ready. Twisting around, Breezepelt hissed and swiped his claws down the throat of Sandstorm. She yowled and backed away, blood dripping from her throat. Snarling in victory, Breezepelt made to finish Sandstorm, though he felt jaws close around his haunches. *Great Starclan! I forgot about Hollyleaf!* Pain spread through his leg and he crumpled to the ground. He scrambled to get back up, though steady paws held him down. "My true father, Crowstar, would love to see his beloved son underneath his brave daughters claws, cowering in fear as she ends his life"Hollyleaf hissed in his ear . She cackled " I'd thought you'd be harder to kill half-brother, but you strongly proved me wrong". *That's what you think....* He let Hollyleaf flip him over, and he tensed his muscles *3..2..1.* With all of his strength he pushed up with his hind legs, rocketing Hollyleaf into a set of brambles. She spat and thrashed to get herself out, as the sharp twigs yanked out her fur. Scrambling off the ground he heard Sandstorm howl in fury " You'll pay for that!" Breezepelt dodged to the side, the tree next to him suffering the fate of Sandstorms claws. Splinters flew in the air, and Breezepelt ducked to avoid being impaled. Sandstorm behind him was breathing heavily as he faced her. She had a wicked grin on her face, eyes almost as crazy as Tigerstar's. Her back arched and bristling, tail straight up in the air, Breezepelt felt uncontrollable shivers down his spine. Sandstorm growled out words " I sense victory, look around Breezepelt, you cannot win this battle, GIVE UP!", He shook his head and glanced at the fight around him. Skyclan was looking beat up. Icepaw and Foxpaw were holding down most of the Shadowclan cats, while the rest of the apprentices, who were injured struggled to match the strength and better training the Windclan cats had. Webfoot was taking on Hawkfrost, and Kinkfur, Blackstar, and Mistystar were battling Tigerstar, Brambleclaw and

other mixed clan apprentices. Leafstar was side by side with Harveymoon, Sharpclaw, Sparrowpelt and Cherrytail. Though they looked tired, and he noticed that Patchfoot had a heavy limp and Bouncefire was careful to stay off his front paw. Firestar was no where to be found.
" Your ragtag group doesn't stand a chance!" Sandstorm mewed . Breezepelt hissed, though he couldn't deny it. The truth was right in front of his eyes.

A streak of lightning cracked across the sky. Rain started to come down, but the moon still shown clear. All if a sudden, Breezepelt felt a presence. *Don't listen to her* a smooth voice said. Breezepelt yowled nearly jumping out of his fur. *Watch out!* Breezepelt felt a gentle push to the side. Stumbling, he watched as Samdstorm missed his throat by a millimeter. Breezepelt reared onto his backlegs, unbalanced. *Find your core* the voice implied *tuck in your tail and slash you claws out. If your unbalanced focus on something solid.* Sandstorm came at him again, and taking the directions, Breezepelt slashed his claws at Sandstorms muzzle, balanced this time. He realized she couldn't get around him. *Fake to left, twist under her belly and swipe her right back foot.* Lunging, Breezeplt stepped left, Sandstorm followed " I've got you now" she snarled, jumping out of the way, he swiped her right foot. Sandstorm crumpling to the ground cursing. Breezepelt pinned her down, and scratches at her underbelly rage taking control. *You betrayed your clan you deserve to die!* He thought " No good traitor!" He howled. *Breezepelt she's had enough.* Though he didn't listen, they drove him and his clan mates out, he they drove small innocent kits out. *Breezepelt stop! Don't be like your father!* Hissing he let Sandstorm go. Sandstorm moaned, and slowly stood up. Breezepelt stepped towards her " Run". He watched as Sandstorm bolted out of the clearing. *I knew you'd do the right thing the voice was smug.* Breezepelt lashed his tail "Who are you?" He questioned the voice replied *My name is Cinderpelt.* A gray she cat materialized in front of his eyes. She looked like she had been swimming I a lake of stars. Looking. Around he realized many other star-pelted cats had appeared in the clearing. Some he recognized. *Yellowfang? Spottedleaf?* Cats stopped fighting. He watched as a Russian blue she-cat padded towards Tigerstar. *Bluestar.* These cats were from Starclan, though.. How could this be?. " Tigerstar". Bluestars voice rang loud and clear, "

surrender or die. No more bloodshed, no more fighting".

Chapter 23

The clearing was dead silent. Bushing his fur up Breezepelt shivered. Tigerstar seemed unstable, and he wondered what is response would be.
Tigerstar hissed " Make me". Bluestar growled and bunched her haunches.
" So be it!" She exclaimed. Her claws slid out "Starclan Attack!". The starry gray she-cat gave a grim nod " I knew he was going to say that" And her sparkly pelt bristled. She was looking up at the sky eyes widened. " Oh no" she gasped.

Tigerstars voice roared " I have friends of my own to!". Cats with shadows and death lingering on their pelts. Dark forest cats. Breezepelt hissed as a dark stripped tabby slid up to him " Hello Breezepelt" it crowed. Breezepelt growled " Darkstripe". Without thinking he lunged and made to claw Darkstripes eyes out. Though his paws met air instead of fur. " Got to be faster than that kit" Darkstripe taunted, Breezepelt whipped around rage burning his heart " I'll shred you to pieces!". Darkstripe chuckled, and flicked his tail " If you can catch me!". Breezepelt used the same move as he did on Sandstorm catching Darkstripe in surprise, as he stumbled to the ground. yowling in victory, he launched himself towards Tigerstar, who was rounding on Harrypaw, ears flattened to his head. Breezepelt barreled into Tigerstar, it was like tackling a brick wall, but it made Tigerstar lose his balance. Breezepelt all of a sudden was launched into the air, and he landed on his back. The breath was knocked out of him, and the only thing he saw next was Amber eyes filled with fury. *Tigerstar....* grunting Breezepelt struggled to escape but Tigerstar held fast. Tigerstar hissed in his ear "Enough of this fight Breezepelt! Surrender and I'll let Windclan have their territory back." That threw him for a loop. He realized the tiredness in Tigerstars eyes as well. He just wanted this to be over. Though this has to either end in Tigerstars death or his. Sure, Windckan would have its territory back but where would the other clans go? He had promised the clans would be back as they were and he would not break that promise.

"NEVER!" With all the strength he had he swung his claws at Tigerstars neck. Rearing back, Tigerstar leaped off. Jumping into his paws Breezepelt growled "Your reign must end!". Tigerstar yowled "Fool!" He leaped at Breezepelt again. Breezepelt charged.
He met Tigerstar in the air, and he felt a surge of strength. "FOR THE CLANS!" He shouted. He pushed away from Tigerstar. Tigerstar landed on his paws and so did Breezepelt. They circled each other. Lashing his tail, Tigerstar snarled. Breezepelt remained calm, his eyes narrowed to tiny slits.

The fighting seemed to stop, and everything blurred. The only enemy he saw was Tigerstar. In that moment Breezepelt had an idea. *It has to be perfect.* He continued to circle, and So did Tigerstar. Tension made his muscles shake and he mewed fiercely " This is your end Tigerstar" . Tigerstar snorted " I wouldn't get cocky Breeze*kit,* Crowstar was easy to kill, and you will be too". Surprised to hear his fathers name again, Breezepelt stumbled. He felt himself loose his footing, and his claws catch on the ground. In his peripheral vision he could see Tigerstar smile and leap into the air. *Big mistake* he thought. At the last minute Breezepelt reared onto his paws claws out stretched. It was to late for Tigerstar to dodge. Breezepelt slashed his claws down Tigerstars stomach.

Silence.

Tigerstar clattered to the ground, a huge wound leading from his neck to his hind leg in his stomach. Breezepelt slowly walked forward standing tall dispute the pain his paw. Tigerstar gasped in pain,
Blood filled his throat as he uttered his last words " I'll always ha-" he didn't get to finish his sentence. His jaw went slack, and his eyes lost their light, and his body went limp. Tigerstar was dead.

Epilogue

The Dark Forest cats started to fade, and so did the Starclan cats. The sun was rising over the clearing. Cats rose there voices in triumph , some in grief; as there loved ones did not make it.

The traitors who had remain ed loyal to Tigerstar , during the fight, had fled to Twoleg Place, seeking a certain cat with a single white paw for refuge. They would not return. For now.
The rest of the clans, the ones who's switched sides when Tigerstar had taken over, rejoined with their kin. They would have to prove strongly their loyalty to the four true leaders. Mistystar, Blackstar, Firestar..... Though one leader was missing. A single cat, the one who had ended the fight, the one who had led the clans to victory. Was not there.

He was racing towards the Skyclan camp, as he had received word that his kits, who would play an important part in the clans history, were coming.

Breezepelt paced back and forth in front of the medicine cats den, cringing every time Ivypools howls rose from the den. Echosong was inside. She had told her apprentice to tend to Breezepelt wounds, though she gave up as he would not remain still. He couldn't take it.

He had to know. He turned to rush in, but was surprised as a cat was already there waiting for him. Echosong. She mewed quietly "She's ok, Breezepelt" then she moved to the side allowing him to enter " the kits are ok." He rushed in. The scent of newborn kits clung in the air.

His eyes fell on a beautiful white tabby she-cat with icy blue eyes. *Ivypool.* A small white tabby tom who looked just like Ivypool squirmed over his litter mates. A broad shouldered and lean black and white pelted tabby she cat slept heavily next to her sister, a dark tortoishell. A gray and white tabby tom was next to them. Purring in delight, Breezepelt padded up to her. Ivypools eyes were tired but they were shining with love as well. "I'd thought I'd name

the gray and white tabby tom Finchkit, pointing with her tail, she nudged the dark tortoishell " and this one Crowkit". Laying her head down and sighing she murmured " you can name the other two". Then fell fast asleep. Breezepelt stared at The tom that looked like Ivypool " Your name will be Doekit, and your sister will be Elmkit". He climbed into the nest with Ivypool and curled around her. Falling asleep as well. At peace.

Bluestar watched from Starclan, her eyes troubled " Are you sure this prophecy is them Yellowfang?". In answer, a raspy voice echoed the ominous prophecy. " The kits of the one who ends a Tyrants life will save the clan from the scourge of the swirling storm". Recalling the battle Bluestar replayed Tigerstars death in her mind, and dipped her head. "Very well, Yellowfang. Make sure those kits are ready when the time comes" .

The end!!! Whew! Finally!